

Module 5: Hands-On: Installing Ansible on AWS



Pre-requisites:

Step 1: Ensure Python is installed on both the machines i.e., Master and Slave. By default AWS Ubuntu images have Python installed. You can skip this step if you are setting up Ansible on AWS. On other machines, install Python using the following command:

```
$ sudo apt-get install python3
```

Step 2: Enable keyless SSH access between Ansible Master and Slave. To accomplish this, do the following:

On Master, pass the following command:

```
$ ssh-keygen
```

After this, keep the default values and keep on pressing enter till you reach the following screen:



Step 3: Once done print id_rsa.pub file using the command:

```
$ sudo cat ./.ssh/id_rsa.pub
```

```
ubuntu@ip-172-31-28-35:~$ sudo cat ./.ssh/id_rsa.pub
ssh-rsa AAAAB3NzaC1yc2EAAAADAQABAAABAQCrOrpxyLWl5uFTQEAxPF3sSAANfZ8bvm42H2Z/Ny/m
GIfOwNTweMWR9eOH8HhVlujhD0/n5C1KQZ9M2vM1lsLJV1TuIWtA1B+HeZPf0zZ7rKkYDw59LGDaw+C9
qOAUwiR2Mf1jY7+Iqdl24RDFo5qZDgL0RNBqEy5OlPeQc1Y9pAxU+7J8KZNJJIxzo0p2gmEYB2j2ym6M
lciSADy5qfFKk8VZSh7ethGge3QbAvSnocdrkQObLDu6XYCha+Vns9h4mAMZx83lxpqW+S1h9EnpQs78
+GV5H+6CSMad+AxkVnQGYxuqSrYUhQ3UqrSgyj/tQwIAMcPBsvtLfRGDzA6v ubuntu@ip-172-31-28
-35
ubuntu@ip-172-31-28-35:~$
```

Step 4: Copy the output of this file and paste it in the slave machine's authorized_keys file. You can do that using the following command. Once inside the file, paste the output.

```
$ sudo nano ./.ssh/authorized_keys

GNU nano 2.9.3 ./.ssh/authorized_keys

ssh-rsa AAAAB3NzaC1yc2EAAAADAQABAAABAQCUZqgfFWtPie0gDGUP27VxqP56Hhu4xCBi7JNqJ30i70ZZ
$BsvtLfRGDzA6v ubuntu@ip-172-31-28-35
```

Insert the new entry in the second line of the file. Save and exit.



Keyless access has now been configured between your Ansible master and slave. You can verify by doing a SSH from your master to your slave and you should be freely able to do so.

```
ubuntu@ip-172-31-24-91:~$ ssh ubuntu@34.217.207.113
Welcome to Ubuntu 18.04.4 LTS (GNU/Linux 4.15.0-1065-aws x86_64)
 * Documentation: https://help.ubuntu.com
 * Management: https://landscape.canonical.com

* Support: https://ubuntu.com/advantage
  System information as of Tue Jun 9 13:18:18 UTC 2020
  System load: 0.0
                                   Processes:
                                                          89
  Usage of /: 13.9% of 7.69GB Users logged in:
  Memory usage: 15%
                                   IP address for eth0: 172.31.28.35
  Swap usage:
                0%
0 packages can be updated.
0 updates are security updates.
Last login: Tue Jun 9 12:24:20 2020 from 34.220.210.174
ubuntu@ip-172-31-28-35:~$
```

With this, you have now successfully configured the pre-requisites.

Installing Ansible on Master:

Step 1: Pass the following commands to install Ansible on the Master:

```
$ sudo apt update
$ sudo apt install software-properties-common
$ sudo apt-add-repository --yes --update ppa:ansible/ansible
$ sudo apt install ansible
```



Step 2: Next, configure the slave by creating the hosts file in the Master. To edit the file, pass the following command:

```
$ sudo nano /etc/ansible/hosts
```

Once inside, enter the following syntax to add a slave. In this syntax, servers is the group and server1 is the slave machine's name. You can give any name of your choice.

```
[servers]
server1 ansible_host=<slave-ip-address>
```

```
GNU nano 2.9.3
                                                            /etc/ansible/hosts
# Ex 2: A collection of hosts belonging to the 'webservers' group
## [webservers]
## alpha.example.org
## beta.example.org
## 192.168.1.100
## 192.168.1.110
# If you have multiple hosts following a pattern you can specify
# them like this:
## www[001:006].example.com
# Ex 3: A collection of database servers in the 'dbservers' group
## [dbservers]
## db01.intranet.mydomain.net
## db02.intranet.mydomain.net
## 10.25.1.56
## 10.25.1.57
# Here's another example of host ranges, this time there are no
# leading 0s:
## db-[99:101]-node.example.com
[servers]
server1 ansible_host=34.217.207.113
```



There will be some sample entries. You can ignore them and add the new values. With this, your ansible configuration is complete.

Step 3: Finally, you can test the Ansible Master-Slave connection by passing the following command:

```
$ ansible -m ping all
```

```
[ubuntu@ip-172-31-24-91:~$ ansible -m ping all
server1 | SUCCESS => {
    "ansible_facts": {
        "discovered_interpreter_python": "/usr/bin/python3"
    },
    "changed": false,
    "ping": "pong"
}
ubuntu@ip-172-31-24-91:~$
```

If everything is configured correctly, you will get the above output.